

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. The final Office Action of April 20, 2005 has been received and contents carefully reviewed.

In the Office Action, the Examiner states that claim 5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. However, because claim 5 is already an independent claim, further clarification regarding this objection is respectfully requested.

By this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 1, 2, 5, 16, 22, 32 and 39. Claims 10-14, 19-21, 27-31 and 35 have been withdrawn as the result of an earlier restriction requirement. Accordingly, claims 1-39 are currently pending in the present application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 6-7, 15, 22-24, 32-34, 36-37 and 39 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by Young et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,441,873) in view of Takeda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,724,452); rejected claims 8-9, 16-18, 25-26 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by Young et al. in view of Takeda et al. and Applicant's Related Art (ARA). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

The rejection of claims 1-4, 6-7, 15, 22-24, 32-34, 36-37 and 39 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by Young et al. in view of Takeda et al. is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 1 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "a pixel electrode in one of the pixel regions on the first substrate, the pixel electrode having a slit therethrough, a central portion and side edge portions surrounding the central portion, wherein the side edge portions are bent and the central portion is flat..." None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention.

Applicant respectfully submits that reflective depressions are located in an entire pixel region in Young et al. See Figs. 1 and 2 of Young et al. In contrast, side edge portions of the pixel electrode are bent and a central portion of the pixel electrode is flat in the present

application, as recited in claim 1. Applicant further submits that Takeda et al. fails to cure this deficient teaching of Young et al. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 and claims 2-4, 6-7 and 15, which depend from claim 1, are allowable over the cited references.

Claim 22 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 22 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “a pixel electrode positioned on the second substrate in one of the pixel regions, opposing the common electrode, and including a slit therethrough, a central portion and side edge portions surrounding the central portion, wherein the side edge portions are bent toward the first substrate and the central portion is flat...” None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 22 and claims 23-24, which depend from claim 22, are allowable over the cited references.

Claim 32 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 32 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “a pixel electrode located on the inner surface of the second substrate in one of the pixel regions, the pixel electrode having a slit therethrough and further having a first portion a first distance from the common electrode and a second portion a second distance from the common electrode, wherein the first portion in a center of the pixel electrode is flat and the first and second distances are different from each other.” None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 32 and claims 33-34 and 36-37, which depend from claim 32, are allowable over the cited references.

Claim 39 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 39 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “a pixel electrode in one of the pixel regions on the first substrate, the pixel electrode having a slit, a central portion and at least two side edge portions, the two side edge portions being bent and the central portion being flat, wherein the two side edge portions are substantially symmetrical with reference to the slit...” None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 39 is allowable over the cited references.

The rejection of claims 8-9, 16-18, 25-26 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by Young et al. in view of Takeda et al. and ARA is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Applicant respectfully submits that since Takeda et al. and ARA fail to cure the deficient teaching of Young et al., as discussed with respect to claim 1, claims 8-9 are allowable.

Claim 16 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 16 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “a pixel electrode in one of the pixel regions on the first substrate, the pixel electrode having a slit therethrough, a central portion and side edge portions surrounding the central portion, wherein the side edge portions have convex portions and the central portion is flat...” None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 16 and claims 17-18, which depend from claim 16, are allowable over the cited references.

Applicant respectfully submits that since Takeda et al. and ARA fail to cure the deficient teaching of Young et al., as discussed with respect to claim 22, claims 25-26 are allowable.

Applicant respectfully submits that since Takeda et al. and ARA fail to cure the deficient teaching of Young et al., as discussed with respect to claim 32, claim 38 is allowable.

Applicant believes the application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner deems that a telephone conference would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number (202) 496-7500. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

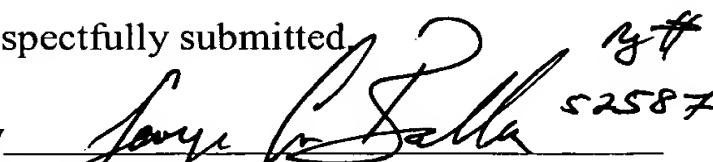
If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the

filings of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

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Respectfully submitted,

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